



Holy Thursday

MARCH 28, 2024 at 6:30 PM

RETHINKING RELIGION: RETHINKING OUR APPETITES

We use the word “appetite” to describe a powerful desire for something. So, what is it you crave the most? Where does your mind go in those quiet moments? What do you want? Power? What do you dream about? Prestige? For what do you hunger? Pleasure? Are our appetites healthy?

A truly healthy appetite is one that aligns with our deepest needs: forgiveness, salvation, communion with God, loving relationships with others. The believer is ravenous for such things! And all of those blessings are on the menu of the Lord’s Supper. Some view Holy Communion as just a religious ritual. Far from it! In this meal, Christ satisfies our greatest appetites.

Opening Hymn: "It Was a Dark and Dismal Night" (Hymn# 417 from the NEW Hymnal)



1 It was a dark and dis - mal night when pow'rs of
2 Be - fore the mourn - ful scene be - gan, he took the
3 "This is my bod - y, slain for sin; re - ceive and
4 "Do this," he said, "till time shall end, in mem - 'ry
5 Je - sus, your feast we cel - e - brate; we show your



earth and hell a - rose a - gainst the Son, our
bread and blessed and broke. What love through all his
eat the liv - ing food." Then took the cup and
of your dy - ing friend; meet at my ta - ble
death; we sing your name till you re - turn and



God's de - light, and friends be - trayed him to his foes.
ac - tions ran! What won - drous words of grace he spoke!
blessed the wine: "This is my all - a - ton - ing blood."
and re - cord the love of your de - part - ed Lord."
we shall eat the mar - riage sup - per of the Lamb.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. (Spoken)

Confession

Brothers and sisters in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and one another. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus our Savior.

In Holy Communion, first instituted on this night, the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and drink the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of his body and blood for forgiveness and participate in that new covenant that makes us one with him and one another. The Lord's Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

As we begin the solemn celebration of our Lord's passion, let us confess our sins to him, receive his absolution, and be reconciled to God and each other in Christian love.

**Congregation: Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. *(Spoken)*

Response: "All Glory Be to God on High" (verses 1 & 3 only)

Glory Be To God—*Gloria in Excelsis*



1 All glo - ry be to God on high!
3 O Lamb of God, to you we pray.

Your name, O Lord, we glo - ri - fy;
You take all hu - man sin a - way.

We praise you for your peace and grace,
Have mer - cy, Lord; re - ceive our prayer;

Your fav - or toward our fal - len race.
From God's right hand, your mer - cy share.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you. (*Spoken*)

Let us pray... Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on a cross. Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this sacrament to our eternal good; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen. (*Spoken*)

THE WORD

First Reading: *Exodus 12:21–30*

Pharaoh hungered for slave labor for Egypt. Israel was starving for salvation. The LORD satisfied that hunger through the Passover meal.

²¹Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go at once and select the animals for your families and slaughter the Passover lamb. ²²Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the doorframe. None of you shall go out of the door of your house until morning. ²³When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down. ²⁴“Obey these instructions as a lasting ordinance for you and your descendants. ²⁵When you enter the land that the LORD will give you as he promised, observe this ceremony. ²⁶And when your children ask you, ‘What does this ceremony mean to you?’ ²⁷then tell them, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians.’ ” Then the people bowed down and worshiped. ²⁸The Israelites did just what the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron. ²⁹At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on the throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner, who was in the dungeon, and the firstborn of all the livestock as well. ³⁰Pharaoh and all his officials and all the Egyptians got up during the night, and there was loud wailing in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. *(Spoken)*

Psalm of the Day: 114B *Tremble, O Earth (from the New Psalms)*

(PRINTED ON THE NEXT PAGE)

114B Tremble, O Earth

Refrain



Trem - ble, O earth, at the pres - ence of the Lord.

Tone



When Israel came out of / Egypt,
Jacob from a people of / foreign tongue,
Judah became God's sanctu- / ary,
Israel his do- / minion.

The sea looked and fled, the Jordan / turned back;
the mountains leaped like rams, the hills / like lambs.

Why was it, sea, that you fled? Why, Jordan, did you / turn back?
Why, mountains, did you leap like rams, you hills, / like lambs?

Refrain

Tremble, earth, at the presence / of the Lord,
at the presence of the God of / Jacob,
who turned the rock in- / to a pool,
the hard rock into springs of / water.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen.

Refrain

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:16–17

We thirst for loving fellowship with God one another. That thirst is quenched in the cup of thanksgiving.

¹⁶Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

¹⁷Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. (Spoken)

Gospel Acclamation: 1 Corinthians 11:26

NOTE: Pastor will sing REFRAIN first time through; Congregation repeats.



Refrain



Glo - ry to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, Son of the liv - ing God.

Tone



Whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup,



you proclaim the Lord's death un - til he comes.

Gospel: Mark 14:12–26

Judas' appetite for money would lead him to betray Jesus. Jesus hungered for our salvation. So, on this night, he instituted the Lord's Supper.

¹²On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹³So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." ¹⁶The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover. ¹⁷When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. ¹⁸While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me." ¹⁹They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?" ²⁰"It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. ²¹The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born." ²²While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body." ²³Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it. ²⁴"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them. ²⁵"Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." ²⁶When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ! *(Spoken)*

Nicene Creed, from *The Common Service*, page 18

Hymn: *"In This Holy, Blest Communion"* (Hymn #669 from the *NEW Hymnal*)

(PRINTED ON THE NEXT PAGE)

“In This Holy, Blest Communion”

1 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion plain and
2 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion Christ and
3 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion saints are

pre - cious gifts com - bine: bread is tru - ly
sin - ners join as one— they, the Fa - ther's
gath - ered side by side, joined to - geth - er,

Je - sus' bod - y, blood of Je - sus joins with wine.
ran - somed chil - dren, he, the Fa - ther's right - ful Son.
broth - ers, sis - ters, in one bod - y u - ni - fied,

What a bless - ing Christ is giv - ing; what a
Here the loft - y feeds the low - ly, each his
faith in Je - sus, hope of heav - en, love for

lov - ing, gra - cious host, in his sup - per
high - ly cher - ished guest; here the guilt - y
oth - ers all in - creased by the full - ness

well pro - vid - ing what his peo - ple need the most!
taste for - give - ness, here the wea - ry find their rest.
of the ban - quet, by the rich - ness of the feast.

SERMON— *“This Is a Holy, Blest Communion”*

Based on 1 Corinthians 10:16–17

Prayer

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen. *(Spoken)*

The Lord's Prayer—

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

Order of Service for the Sacrament, *from the Common Service, page 21*

Distribution Hymn: #135 *"The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord"*

After the Sacrament, we sing Song of Simeon on page 24

Prayers and Blessing, page 25

Closing Hymn: #332 *"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"*

The Service for the Sacrament, Distribution Hymn & Closing Hymn are printed in the back of this service folder.

A Warm Welcome to all St John's Members
joining us for Worship and the Sacrament on this Holy Thursday!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU: Special THANKS to our Guest Accompanist this evening, Christine Ehinger from St. John's, Riga

FIRST COMMUNION: We wish God's blessing on St John's confirmands, some of whom are receiving the LORD'S SUPPER for the first time this evening. Confirmation Day was observed last Sunday, Palm Sunday, at St John's, with four young people confirming: Noah Bourdette, Alex Goetz, Cameron Spas & Hayden Wahl.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR: The flowers on the altar are placed by Diana Mason-Six in loving memory of her husband Phil Six and remembering his birthday today, March 28.

EASTER BREAKFAST – SUNDAY, MARCH 31 AT 9:00 AM – PLEASE SIGN UP IF YOU CAN: Out in the narthex are sign up sheets for donating the food for the Easter Breakfast; helping to cook, serve & clean up; and for attending. We are hoping to get an idea of how many place settings we need. If you don't get a chance to sign up, that's okay... *we still want you to come and enjoy great food and fellowship with us!*

LWMS ALPHA CIRCUIT NEWS: We are gearing up for our Spring Rally which will be held **Saturday April 27th at Divine Grace in Lake Orion**. More information to come. *Ladies... Mark your calendars now!*

Our HOLY WEEK WORSHIP continues tomorrow on
Good Friday at 6:30 PM

Grace Ev Lutheran Church • 302 N Maumee St • Tecumseh, MI 49286
Website: gracetecumseh.com

THE SACRAMENT, *The Common Service, pages 21-25*

M: The Lord be with you.

♪ *Congregation sings: And also with you.*

M: Lift up your hearts.

♪ *Congregation sings: We lift them up unto the Lord.*

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

♪ *Congregation sings: It is good and right so to do.*

PROPER PREFACE (FOR LENT)

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

SING: HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, *Sanctus*

♪ *The Congregation sings:*

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts:

heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

♪ *Congregation sings: Amen.*

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD, *Agnus Dei*

♪ *Congregation sings:*

O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; Grant us your peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

SONG OF SIMEON, *Nunc Dimittis*

♪ *Congregation sings:*

Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace according to your word.

For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared

before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles

and the glory of your people Israel.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

♪ *Congregation sings: And his mercy endures forever.*

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

♪ *Congregation sings: Amen.*

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

♪ *Congregation sings: Amen, Amen, Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

Distribution Hymn: #135 *“The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord”*

[1] The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord,
We celebrate with one accord;
It is our comfort in distress,
Our heart's sweet joy and happiness.

[2] He blotted out with his own blood
The judgment that against us stood;
He full atonement for us made,
And all our debt he fully paid.

[3] That this forever true shall be
He gives a solemn guarantee;
In this his holy supper here
We taste his love, so sweet, so near.

[4] His Word proclaims and we believe
That in this supper we receive
His very body, as he said,
His very blood for sinners shed.

[5] A precious food is this indeed--
It never fails us in our need--
A heav'nly manna for our soul
Until we safely reach our goal.

[6] Oh, blest is each believing guest
Who in this promise finds his rest,
For Jesus will in love abide
With those who do in him confide.

[7] The guest that comes with true intent
To turn to God and to repent,
To live for Christ, to die to sin,
Will thus a holy life begin.

[8] They who his Word do not believe
This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never find--
May we this warning keep in mind!

[9] Help us sincerely to believe
That we may worthily receive
Your supper and in you find rest.
Amen! They who believe are blest.

Closing Hymn: #332 “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

- 1 Go, my children, with my blessing,
never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;
you are my own.
In my love’s baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing,
you are my own.
- 2 Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you,
what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son’s story;
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure.
- 3 Go, my children, fed and nourished,
closer to me;
grow in love and love by serving,
joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you;
here his tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished,
joyful and free.
- 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you
and give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you
and give you peace;
I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, my children; I will keep you
and give you peace.